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## The Online Hate Prevention Institute



### Who does hate target?

OHPI monitors all forms of online hate. This includes both "hate speech" directed against groups, or against individuals because of they belong to an identifiable group, and cyberbullying which can involve hateful content directed against an individual for any reason, or for no apparent reason at all.

Our definition is wider than both that of the law and that of platform providers. We aims to promote debate about the type of society we, the internet using public, wish to see. We also seek to raise awareness about the dangers that hate, whatever form it takes, can have on individuals and their physical and emotional health.

**The Online Hate Prevention Institute is a Charitable Institute and Incorporated as an Australian Public Company. ABN: 65 155 287 657.**

#### The Board of Directors

OHPI is managed by a Board of Directors elected by the OHPI membership. The Board itself is run by the OHPI Chairperson, while day to day management is delegated to a Managing Director (the CEO).

#### Bernard Korbman OAM (Chairman)

Bernard Korbman is Managing Director of the Advocacy Consulting Group. He previously served as the Executive Director of the Melbourne Jewish Holocaust Museum and Research Centre and as a teacher, coordinator, and acting deputy school principle for the Victorian Education Department. Mr Korbman holds a Fine Arts degree, Diploma of Education, Graduate Diploma of Media Studies, and Master of Education degree. Mr Korbman is President of Australian Society of Polish Jews and Their Descendants.

#### Dr Andre Oboler (Managing Director & CEO)

Dr Andre Oboler is co-chair of the Online Antisemitism working group of the Global Forum to Combat Antisemitism and serves as an expert to the Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism. He is the former Director of the Community Internet Engagement Project at the Zionist Federation of Australia. He has previously served as Chair of the

Lancaster District Diversity Festival, National Secretary of the Union of Jewish Students, a Deputy on the Board of Deputies of British Jews, an invited observer on the board of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, and as a charity trustee for the Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre and the National Postgraduate Committee. Dr Oboler holds a PhD in Computer Science from Lancaster University.

#### James Altman OAM (Treasurer)

James Altman is the President of B'nai B'rith Australia and New Zealand, a member of the Board of Governors of B'nai B'rith International and Treasurer of Courage to Care (NSW). He is a recipient of the Medal of the Order of Australia "for service to the Jewish Community and through fostering intercultural understanding". He has also served as honorary treasurer for the Refugee Council of Australia, and as a trustee of the Australian Refugee Foundation.

#### Baden Hughes (Secretary & Public Officer)

Baden Hughes is currently a Vice President at Event Zero, a real time distributed data analysis software products company; Commercialization Advisor and Product Strategist at SYL Semantics; and a cofounder, executive office, investor and advisor in several other software businesses in Australia and overseas. He has worked for the University of Melbourne and NICTA and in the internet infrastructure space in Australia, Asia and Europe. Mr Hughes has served on the executive committees of The Perl Foundation, The System Administrator's Guild of Australia, and IEEE Computer Society Victorian Chapter. He is currently on the Standards Committee of the American Society for Information Science and Technology. Mr Hughes holds tertiary qualifications in linguistics, psychology, computer science, language processing, information technology and business. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

#### Prof John Rosenberg

Professor John Rosenberg is Senior Deputy Vice-chancellor and Vice-president of La Trobe University. He has previously served as Deputy Vice-chancellor

(Academic) at Deakin University and Dean of the Faculty of Information Technology at Monash University. Prof Rosenberg holds a PhD in Computer Science from Monash University. Prof Rosenberg is a founder of Kehilat Nitzan, Melbourne's Conservative synagogue.

### **Jo Silver**

Jo Silver is Project Manager at the Jewish Community Council of Victoria. She was formerly Executive Officer of the Victorian Parents Council, General Manager of the Alma sports club and a Project Coordinator at Jewish Aid Australia. Jo has also served as Vice President of the Australian Parents Council and President of Toy Libraries Victoria. Ms Silver holds an MBA from Middlesex University and a Diploma of Applied Science (Prosthetics & Orthotics) from Latrobe University.

### **Dr Ron Weiser AM**

Dr Ron Weiser is a practicing dentist. He is the Hon. Life President of the Zionist Council of NSW and Immediate Past President of Zionist Federation of Australia. He is a Committee Member of the board of Governors of the Jewish Agency. He is a Member of the Order of Australia for "service to the community through leadership roles with the Zionist Federation of Australia, to the promotion and development of Australia-Israel relations, and to youth". He is also a recipient of the Jerusalem Prize and of the Herzl Award for leadership and service to the Jewish World. Dr Weiser holds a Bachelor of Dental Surgery from the University of Sydney.

### **Manny Waks**

Manny Waks is Assistant Director in the Australian Government's Office of Transport Security. He is the Founder & Executive Director of the Capital Jewish Forum, a former President of the ACT Jewish Community, a former Vice President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry and a former Governor of the New South Wales Jewish Communal Appeal Board of Governors. Manny is a former Executive Officer of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission. He holds a BA in International Relations from La Trobe University.

[http://ohpi.org.au/?page\\_id=28](http://ohpi.org.au/?page_id=28)

## **Mission and Vision**

### **Mission**

To be a world leader in combating online hate and a critical partner who works with key stakeholders to improve the prevention, mitigation and responses to online hate.

### **Vision**

To change online culture so hate in all its forms becomes as socially unacceptable online as it is "in real life".

### **Principal Activities**

The principal activity of OHPI is the promotion of the prevention or control of human behaviour that is harmful or abusive to human beings, specifically Emotional Abuse, Physical Abuse, Self Harm and Suicide. [Read more.](#)

### **History**

OHPI was created in 2012 as a dedicated institute for addressing online hate. It builds on six years of work in

combating Online Hate by its CEO, Dr Andre Oboler. [Read more.](#)

### **History**

OHPI was created in 2012 as a dedicated institute for addressing online hate. It took over the online antisemitism work which the Community Internet Engagement Project of the Zionist Federation of Australia carried out between 2009 and 2011. OHPI expands this work to also examine other forms of online hate, while still maintaining online antisemitism as a particular focus area.

OHPI builds on six years of work in combating Online Hate by Dr Andre Oboler. This work began in the UK with "Zionism On The Web", a website to combat online hate that was launched in 2005. In 2007 Dr Oboler continued this work in Israel while a Post Doctoral Fellow. His work in the area of online antisemitism, published primarily by the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, received international attention. On the basis of his work Dr Oboler became a member of the Global Forum to Combat Antisemitism, and in time co-chair of its Online Antisemitism Working Group.

Returning to Australia, the Zionist Federation of Australia and the Pratt Foundation created the Community Internet Engagement Project to allow this important work to continue within an Australian setting. The CIE project was a great success in terms of output and impact, but without deductible gift recipient status it was unable to secure long term funding. The CIE project closed after two years with an agreement to transfer those aspects of the project that could be charitable to a new institution capable of being a deductible gift recipient.

The collaborative online monitoring software, "Fight Against Hate" that is a key part of OHPI's business plan has already been substantially designed as part of the CIE project. It has also been presented to and received approval from a meeting of experts, and at public events where it was presented in both Melbourne and Sydney. Thanks are given to the Pratt Foundation and B'nai B'rith Australia and New Zealand who substantially funded this work, and to the Zionist Federation of Australia for their efforts to ensure the work can continue in a viable manner.

### **NOTES**

The Online Hate Prevention Institute was established in January 2012 as a dedicated organisation to combat online hate and to reduce the emotional and physical harm that such hate can cause.

Dr Oboler is an internationally recognised expert in online hate and social media. He is CEO of the Online Hate Prevention Institute and co-chair of the Online Antisemitism working group of the Global Forum to Combat Antisemitism. He holds a PhD in Computer Science from Lancaster University (UK).

You can stay up-to-date with OHPI by liking our Facebook page:

<http://ohpi.org.au/>

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**From: ALEXANDER BARON** [a\\_baron@btinternet.com](mailto:a_baron@btinternet.com)

**Sent: Wednesday, 15 August 2012 8:17 PM**

**Subject: Australian Zionists boast they censor YouTube**

There is an old fellow named Fred,  
Who clearly is off of his head,  
I know that is true,  
Said an old Aussie Jew,  
Cos his videos fill me with dread!

\*

## Op-Ed: The Online Hate Prevention Institute censors YouTube



By [Alexander Baron](#)

Aug 15, 2012 - 13 hours ago in [Politics](#)

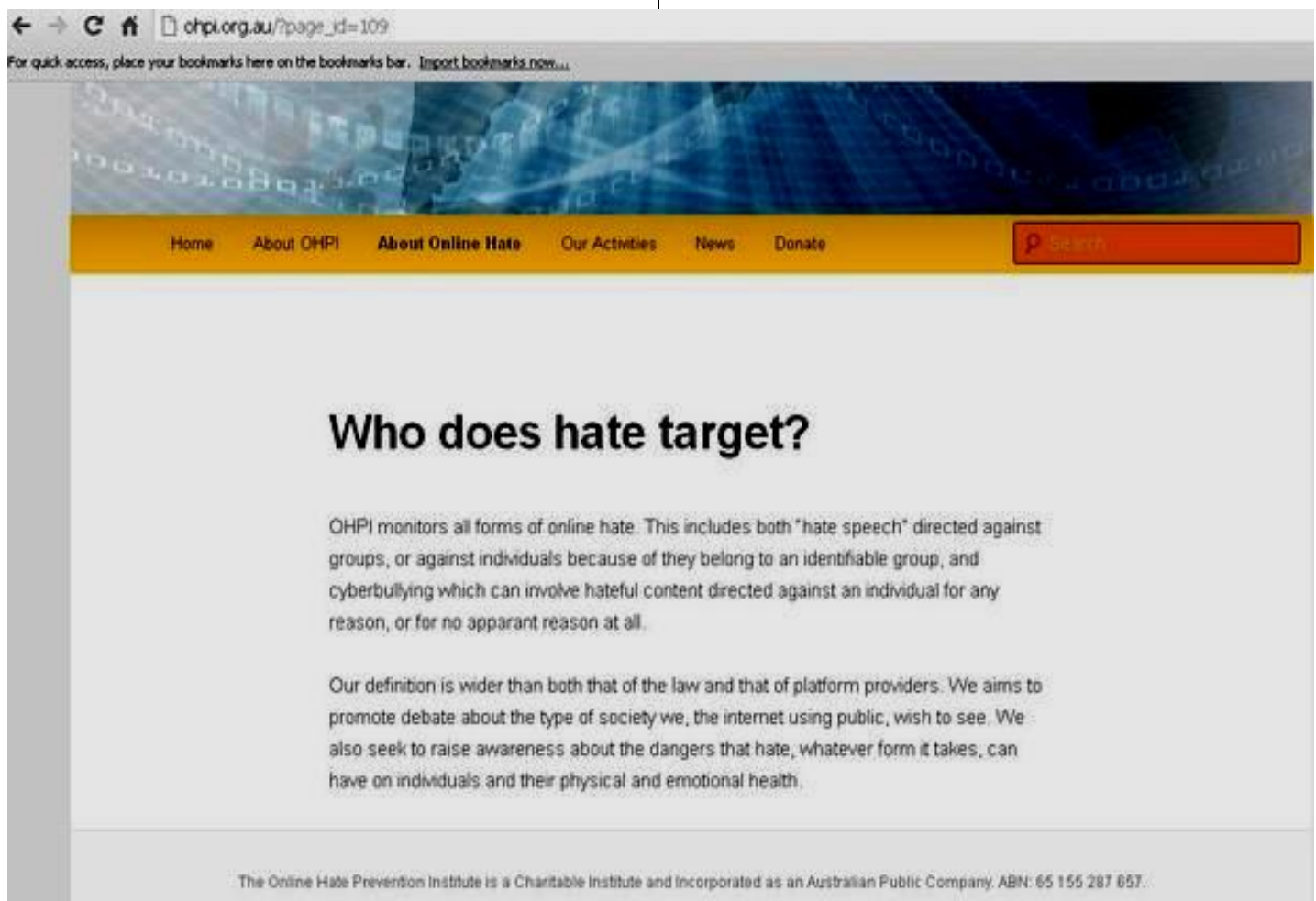
[Sydney](#)- Welcome to Australia: a land of opportunities; the land of parrots; and the home of a group of semi-literate hatemongers who want to tell you which videos you can watch, and which you can't.

Hate is a terrible thing, isn't it? Or perhaps that depends on the target of that hate. Is it wrong to hate war? To hate poverty? To hate lies? To hate bigotry?

These issues can be subjective, because it is not always wrong to lie, and depending on how it is defined, bigotry

can be a good, bad or indifferent thing. Therein lies one of the many problems of an organisation that sets itself up to "prevent hate". Or perhaps that should be "ostensibly to prevent hate". There is at least one such organisation Down Under, the deceptively titled Online Hate Prevention Institute.

Below is a screengrab from its "About" page.



**A screengrab of the About page of the self-styled Online Hate Prevention Institute.**



Can you spot the four grammatical mistakes? More to the point, can you spot the willful attempt to deceive the public? No? Okay, let's do a little critical reading.

"Our definition is wider than both that of the law and that of platform providers".

Translation: "We decide what constitutes hate, not YouTube, not the law, not you. And if we decide it constitutes hate, we're not going to let you watch it. Period".

"We aims to promote debate".

Translation: "We aim to stifle debate that is not on our terms".

"We also seek to raise awareness about the dangers that hate, whatever form it takes, can have on individuals and their physical and emotional health".

Translation: "If we decide without reference to anyone or anything else, that someone will find a particular video hateful or offensive, we will *order* it to be removed

from YouTube or any other platform, and there will be no appeal against *our* decision."

Who is behind the Online Hate Prevention Institute, and what is their real agenda? A list of their current board of directors can be found [here](#).

Seven of the eight names listed are identifiably Jewish, and at least two of those are by their own admission active supporters of Zionism. Now what does that tell you?

Their main target at the moment, and most likely the perverted inspiration for this sinister organisation, is Dr Fredrick Töben.

You can read about Dr Töben's misadventures elsewhere, but below are two screengrabs from a recent mailing he sent out.



#### A screengrab of an e-mail from Fredrick Töben.

Notice the slightly paranoid wording, "Jews" are out to get him. Why does he believe that? Why does he believe "Jews" are trying to shut him up? Maybe it's for the same reason some people believe "Jews" or "the Jews" (all of them?) are trying to censor the Internet, because a clique of American Jews - [the ADL](#) - is indeed trying to do so.

There is a widely held belief in certain circles that the media, specifically the American media, is controlled by

Jews. Clearly both the ADL and the OHPI regard this claim as akin to hate, so how do they hope to refute it? By controlling the media, or at least the Internet. Hmm. Okay, so the OHPI has made this poor bloke paranoid, but the second screengrab from this e-mail should make us all paranoid, because the claim is made - undoubtedly true - that YouTube has already removed no fewer than 1700 videos at the behest of this hate-filled clique.

In a related development, a copy of Toben's material featured among more than 1700 videos removed from YouTube after the **Online Hate Prevention Institute** (OHPI) contacted the broadcaster and released a wide-ranging report on internet abuse by hatemongers.

The OHPI report, documenting serious racial hate activity in cyberspace, noted how one user in a single day uploaded 1710 videos, "the vast majority of which were blatant hate speech", said the organisation's CEO, Dr Andre Oboler.

He was heartened by YouTube's response - it closed the user's accounts within 24 hours of receiving an advance copy of OHPI's report - but he was discouraged that YouTube had not responded to a flood of viewers flagging the material as "racist".

Dr Oboler told The AJN: "If it takes YouTube over a month to spot such a user, yet the user is able to upload over a thousand hateful videos a day, inevitably YouTube will be unable to keep pace with the spread of hate. OHPI is working on ways to improve the processes, technology and systems so that the mass spread of hate can be better prevented."

A Google Inc spokesperson in the US told The AJN that YouTube's community guidelines prohibit hate speech. "We routinely remove comments and videos flagged by our users under those guidelines and terminate the accounts of users who repeatedly break the rules."

<http://www.jewishnews.net.au/youtube-too-slow-on-hate-videos/27252>

#### A screengrab from an e-mail by Dr Fredrick Töben which exposes the censorship of YouTube videos by Zionist hatemongers.

Not only that, but the OHPI isn't satisfied with this response, and thinks when it shouts "Jump", the people at YouTube should ask "How high?"

One serious point here, is that undoubtedly many of the videos that have been removed by YouTube at the behest of the OHPI contain material that is largely or perhaps entirely accurate. It is possible to produce a video, a book or whatever that is 100% factually accurate yet is entirely misleading, intentionally or otherwise.

For example, a video about homosexual serial killers - of which there have been many - might be construed as hate by certain so-called *gay* activists.

Videos relating to atrocities and human rights abuses committed in the Middle East and elsewhere can likewise

be construed as "hate" by interested parties, and just damned liars.

If you don't want anyone, Jew, Gentile, Christian fundamentalist, Islamist, white, black, homosexual, *feminist*, politician...to tell you what videos you can watch, what books you can read...the time to take a stand against these tyrants of tolerance is now, before they succeed not only in censoring anything *they* find offensive, but in making it illegal.

*This opinion article was written by an independent writer. The opinions and views expressed herein are those of the author and are not necessarily intended to reflect those of DigitalJournal.com*

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/330829>

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On Wed, Aug 15, 2012 at 11:03 AM, Fredrick Toben [toben@toben.biz](mailto:toben@toben.biz) wrote:

**QUESTION: Is Peter Wertheim, Executive Council of Australian Jewry, Sydney, inciting hatred against Fredrick Töben or is Wertheim merely exercising his freedom of hate speech?**

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## **YouTube 'too slow' on hate videos**

**Peter Kohn, Australian Jewish News, August 14, 2012**

THE Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) has contacted YouTube after the online broadcaster allowed posts of material relating to Australian Holocaust denier Fredrick Toben.

ECAJ executive director Peter Wertheim told The AJN that after the national roof body complained to YouTube last month, three specific videos were pulled. "But the same content remains online on YouTube, either in its original form or with a warning preceding it. If YouTube doesn't act on it, we will."

One of the posts seen by The AJN this week features death camp footage and is titled "Six Million? The Persecution of Fredrick Toben", which compares the veracity of the Holocaust to "the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus and the tooth fairy". It carries a warning that it has been "identified by the YouTube community as being potentially offensive or inappropriate. Viewer discretion is advised". However, there is an option for viewers to prevent that notice from reappearing on their next viewing.

In a related development, a copy of Toben's material featured among more than 1700 videos removed from YouTube after the Online Hate Prevention Institute (OHPI) contacted the broadcaster and released a wide-ranging report on internet abuse by hatemongers.

The OHPI report, documenting serious racial hate activity in cyberspace, noted how one user in a single day uploaded 1710 videos, "the vast majority of which were blatant hate speech", said the organisation's CEO, Dr Andre Oboler.

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<http://www.jewishnews.net.au/youtube-too-slow-on-hate-videos/27252>



## Zentai wins extradition fight to stay in Australia

David Weber [Wednesday, August 15, 2012 12:20:00](#)

**ELEANOR HALL:** The alleged war criminal, Charles Zentai, has won his legal battle to stay in Australia, with the High Court today blocking his extradition to Hungary.

The 90-year-old former Hungarian soldier was accused of murdering a Jewish teenager in Budapest in 1944 but has always maintained his innocence.

In a statement, the Federal Government has said High Court's decision provides certainty about the application of Australia's extradition treaty with Hungary. And means that Mr Zentai will not be surrendered to Hungarian authorities.

The World Today's David Weber was among the reporters who spoke to Mr Zentai and his son Ernie Steiner, in Perth after the verdict was handed down.

Mr Zentai begins by describing his reaction to the court's decision.

**CHARLES ZENTAI:** Still the stress, you know, I've been so stressed the last few days in particular, yes. So now I just don't know how I feel.

**DAVID WEBER:** Mr Zentai, what about if Hungary does try to pursue you further by bringing on perhaps an extradition request for murder?

**CHARLES ZENTAI:** I don't know. I wouldn't have a clue. I hope they won't but it's in their hands I suppose. No, I just have no idea.

**DAVID WEBER:** Are you still prepared to answer questions if they were prepared to send people out to speak to you?

**CHARLES ZENTAI:** Oh yes, oh yeah.

**ERNIE STEINER:** My father's always been willing to answer questions here in Australia and we've invited the Hungarian authorities to send officials out to question my father and they could look at all the facts about his innocence, and this is a technical point that we're dealing with now. But really the issue is my father is innocent and that's what really the Hungarian authorities should be considering.

**DAVID WEBER:** How did you feel when you saw the High Court judgement this morning?



**ERNIE STEINER:** I was very happy about that. It's hard to take it in in such a short time so I'll have to go through the full implications of it.

You know, people believed in my father, they believed that he was innocent, that he had been unjustly dealt with, and it's really, I can see this hopefully taking a better turn now. But I'd still like to hear from the Minister regarding the extradition order.

**DAVID WEBER:** If Hungary was to pursue this, would you be seeking to try to bring to the attention of the Australian Government and perhaps the Hungarian authorities some of the evidence that you've turned up over the past seven years that you say shows that father didn't do it?

**ERNIE STEINER:** That would be very helpful if they would consider that. I have sent similar abbreviated representations already to the Hungarian government. The Australian Minister for Home Affairs at the time, Brendan O'Connor, refused to consider all that evidence - 500 pages of documentation from the archives in Budapest.

Everything was put into context. My father was not in Budapest on the eighth of November, 1944. We can establish that he was with another person, Janosh Bodnar, and there's now evidence that there's supplies been issued to my father's unit in Hungary between the seventh and ninth of November, 1944 in the village where his unit moved to.

So all these things are lining up to very strongly support what my father's been saying all along. I mean he was never a Nazi, he was never on the run, he was not an officer as has been falsely claimed.

So this has been sort of a thing that's been built up to try and vilify my father and I'm just so happy that this is starting to reveal itself now and that justice will be served.

**ELEANOR HALL:** That's Ernie Steiner, the son of Charles Zentai, who's just won his High Court battle to stay in Australia.

<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2012/s3568212.htm>

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## Romney says Obama campaign about hate

Republican candidate Mitt Romney has criticized Obama's campaign with what he called 'hatred'.

<http://video.heraldsun.com.au/2268337008/Romney-says-Obama-campaign-about-hate?area=videoindex10>

## Racist attacks on the rise in Greece

Racist attacks are increasing in Greece with hundreds injured and at least one killed in the past 6 months.

<http://video.heraldsun.com.au/2267755805/Racist-attacks-on-the-rise-in-Greece?area=videoindex18>

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# Hungary's dropping of claims against alleged Nazi arouses suspicions, potential counter charges

By [Cnaan Liphshiz](#) · August 14, 2012



**Efraim Zuroff, above, tracked down alleged war criminal Laszlo Csatory in Budapest, but with the dismissal of some of the charges against Csatory, a Hungarian lawyer called for the indictment of Zuroff.**

**Photo via Creative Commons.**

(JTA) -- Trained by life in surmounting grief, Marika Weinberger focuses on the silver lining in the **recent decision in Budapest not to try Hungarian war criminal Laszlo Csatory in connection with the murder of her nine uncles in 1941.**

"At least now I won't need to testify and relive the pain," Weinberger, 84, told JTA in a phone interview from her home in Sydney, Australia. She says she is nonetheless prepared to do "everything necessary to bring Csatory to justice."

Weinberger claims that Csatory, a former police officer who was arrested last month in Budapest, was responsible for deporting her uncles to a killing site in Ukraine. Yet **prosecutors in Budapest last week dismissed her claims without ever speaking to her**, raising concerns by Weinberger and others about the seriousness of the investigation.

The Federation of Jewish Communities in Slovakia has called publicly for Csatory's extradition to that country based on information it claims to have that points to Csatory taking property from Jews in Kosice, a city in

eastern Slovakia. Those charges also are being investigated, says Martin Kornfeld, the federation's CEO. Kornfeld adds that he has no indication that alleged acts of cruelty by Csatory to Jewish prisoners were being investigated. He notes that the acts were addressed in Csatory's 1948 conviction in absentia by a Czechoslovakian court for torturing prisoners at Kosice. The office of Budapest's chief prosecutor, Dr. Zsolt Grim, did not respond to interview requests for this article.

According to Weinberger, her father told her that Csatory had organized the deportation of her mother's nine brothers from Kosice on Aug. 19, 1941.

Her testimony was part of the file that the Simon Wiesenthal Center had prepared on Csatory that led to his arrest last month. The center's research implicates Csatory in the deportation of 300 people from Kosice in 1941 and another 15,700 in 1944.

Csatory was arrested after London's The Sun newspaper published an expose about him. Csatory had fled to Canada in 1949 after the Czech court sentenced him in absentia to death for war crimes. He returned to Hungary in the 1990s after Ottawa revoked his citizenship.

**Last week, the Budapest Prosecutor's Office dismissed Weinberger's testimony and dropped the charges from 1941, saying Csatory was not in Kosice at the time and lacked the rank to organize the transports.** The Hungarian prosecution team is said to be continuing to probe allegations pertaining to the allegations from 1944.

**Weinberger, a former vice president of the Sydney Jewish Museum and a past president of the Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants,** stands by her story.

"I was young, but I remember the name Csatory," she said. "It surfaced when my father was trying to find out what happened to my uncles."

Weinberger says she even recalls the weather on the night of the deportation, adding that "I remember it better than I remember what happened yesterday."

According to Weinberger, her father found out that on Csatory's orders, four of her uncles were recalled from forced labor to Kosice for deportation with her remaining five uncles and another 300 people.

"To think that Csatory went to all that trouble to have them murdered," she said. "No one bothered to ask me what I know. Now he's off the hook."

As the conversation progresses, the memories shake Weinberger's determination to look at the glass as half full.

"It's a big disappointment," she acknowledged. "I was recently very ill and I thought I wouldn't live much longer, but I drew solace from knowing that the man who killed my uncles would be brought to justice."

Quickly regaining her composure, she says, "Actually, I'm not surprised they dropped the charges. I'm sure they would've found a way to ignore my testimony even had they agreed to hear it."

Weinberger was deported to Auschwitz in 1944 along with other family members. Only **she, her sister and an aunt survived the Holocaust.**

**The dropping of charges pertaining to 1941 "and other points" lead Kornfeld, the Slovakia Jewish federation's CEO, to believe that "Hungarian authorities are trying to avoid a decision on Csatory in court and are trying to find points that make the trial positive for Csatory."**

What is known is that in 1944, at the age of 29, Csatory owned a large house in one of Kosice's most affluent neighborhoods -- one that Kornfeld says was well beyond his salary at the police force. By the end of World War II, Kornfeld adds, Csatory also owned a foreign-made luxury car that few Czechs could afford.

"Our opinion is that it looks like Csatory took a lot of money and/or property from Jews from Kosice and that this was [used as] part of his business in Canada," where Csatory was an art dealer, Kornfeld says.

Meanwhile, **Efraim Zuroff, the New York-born Nazi hunter who tracked down Csatory in Budapest, says he is "very perturbed to learn that no one from the prosecution had spoken to" Weinberger.** He adds, "This dismissal raises questions about the objectivity of prosecutors."

The dismissal has Zuroff, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Israel office, facing challenges of his own related to the case.

Citing the dismissal, a well-known Hungarian lawyer this week called on the Budapest Prosecutor's Office to indict Zuroff. Futo Barnabas told the conservative newspaper Magyar Nemzet that "There are now valid grounds to charge Zuroff with deliberately making a false accusation."

The charge, which is meant to discourage libelous complaints, carries a five-year prison sentence in Hungary.

It is not uncharted territory for Zuroff. Last year, a Hungarian court summoned him to answer libel accusations leveled at him by Sandor Kepiro, a suspected war criminal whom Zuroff had exposed.

Zuroff was found not guilty; Kepiro stood trial in Hungary and was acquitted last year. The acquittal was appealed, but Kepiro died last September before the start of the new proceedings.

Peter Feldmayer, president of Hungary's Federation of Jewish Communities, says that indicting Zuroff for accusing Csatory "would be an act of insanity."

"It is for a court to determine whether accusations are justified," he said of the charges against Csatory. "To try someone for accusing a convicted war criminal of deporting Jews, this is madness."

Zuroff stands by his work, saying that the Simon Wiesenthal Center is doing the Hungarian people and government "a tremendous favor by giving them the opportunity to honestly confront the bloody history of the Holocaust in court."

Weinberger, following the developments from Sydney, continues to count her blessings.

"I'm glad," she said, "that I left Europe and went to the farthest corner on earth that I could find."

<http://www.jta.org/news/article/2012/08/14/310392/6/partial-clearing-of-hungarian-war-criminals-record-riles-accusers>

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## **Plane flying Nazi flag and word 'Swastika' soars over Long Beach Jewish community**

By [Daily Mail Reporter](#) 16:03 GMT, 24 June 2012



Beachgoers were stunned on Saturday when a plane flew over Long Beach Island and along the Jersey Shore, towing a Nazi flag.

On the sign was written the word 'Swastika', showing the anti-Semitic symbol intertwined with the Hebrew Star of David.

It was spotted as far north as Manhattan and prompted several calls from concerned viewers to the Long Beach Township Police Department.



**Spotted: Beachgoers were stunned on Saturday when a plane flew over Long Beach Island and along the Jersey Shore, towing a Nazi flag**

Officers believe the plane was sponsored by an organisation connected to the Raelian Movement, which preaches that earth life was scientifically created by the Elohim, a species of extraterrestrial beings.

In a press release the Raelians claimed responsibility for the banner, adding that Saturday was their 3rd Annual Swastika Rehabilitation Day. The group asked spiritual groups who use the symbol to stand up and show their support, insisting that its true meaning is misunderstood. But the Jewish Community Centre of Long Beach Island is skeptical and has demanded answers.

'We're trying to find out - what are their intentions?' President Don Pripstein told the [Manasquan-Belmar Patch](#).

The symbol of the Raelian movement is a hexagram intertwined with a right-facing Swastika

On its website the Raelian Movement describes the swastika as 'a symbol of peace and good luck in many Eastern religions' and a 'good luck symbol'.

'The star of David represents infinity in space whereas the swastika represents infinity in time i.e. there being no beginning, no end in time and everything being cyclical,' it writes.

The movement's 'official' symbol features the swastika intertwined with a hexagram or the Hebrew Star of David, as reportedly seen by people on the beach.



© worldsymbols.blogspot.com

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article2163948/ShockNaziflagsoarsLongBeachJewishcommunity.html#ixzz23yx4iu7F>



**The Edmonton Swastikas, a Canadian womens' ice hockey team, c.1916.**



**American "Windsor Swastikas" Dark Outfits 1910**



Actress Clara Bow wearing Swastikas in the 1920s



In 1925 Coca Cola made a lucky watch fob in the shape of a swastika with the slogan, "Drink Coca Cola five cents in bottles." At that time, the Swastika was still a symbol of 'Good Luck'. The watch fob is approximately 4cm x 4cm in size and is made of brass.

## 'One rule for the holocaust, another for Islam'- Journalist

Published: 20 September, 2012, 00:21

As protests rock the Muslim world, a French magazine has decided to publish cartoons insulting Islam, arguing freedom of speech. But critics now point to hypocrisy, with denying the holocaust being illegal in many European countries.

Journalist and writer **Barry Lando** explained to RT that he believes freedom of speech laws in Europe are used selectively and that the explosion of protest among Muslims is a symptom of 50 years of simmering anger at the West.

**RT:** *Printing such provocative satire after massive deadly protests over a film mocking Islam film, is that some kind of desperate act for publicity?*

**Barry Lando:** I suppose their motives are mixed, I'm sure publicity has something to do with it, definitely their circulation has gone up every time they've done it; so they risk firebombing but they've got a lot of money through doing it. But the French are no different to the newspapers in England or Europe who do the same thing.

As far as the question on limits on freedom of speech, not just in France but in Europe as a whole, looking at the laws across Europe, there are in-fact limits on freedom of speech and those laws link directly in Germany, Netherlands as well as France with any kind of publication or communication- and I'm quoting the German law now- "which would incite hatred against segments of the population or assault human dignity by

insulting or maliciously aligning segments of the population". In Germany you can be punished for 3-5 years for publishing such a thing.

Also you probably know that denying the holocaust is a crime in most European countries, not in the United Kingdom but certainly in France and Germany.

**RT:** *Barry I want to draw your attention to something, the Prime Minister says that publication is an issue of freedom of expression, now just yesterday proactive pictures of British royalty were banned from the press, why weren't they defended in the same way?*

**BL:** I agree I think it's hypocritical and it doesn't really stand up to examination.

**RT:** *Now you did mention freedom of speech and it certainly is an admirable concept and now France has shut down its embassies and schools abroad fearing a backlash against the cartoon*

**BL:** Just let me finish if I could with what I was saying with the question of holocaust denial which is not permitted in Europe, I would argue that attacking the holocaust is very similar to attacking ones religion, as in the case of Judaism, so in-fact there are limits on it.

**RT:** *Now the scope of the outrage throughout the Muslim world is huge, dozens of states are seeing both peaceful and violent protests now this can't just be about a film or a cartoon- however mocking it may be?*

**BL:** No of course, it's just an excuse for the release of a lot of hatreds which have built up over decades, it's the

last drop in a cup of animosity against the United States and other countries which has been filling over the years, its goes back 50 years into the history of the United States and that part of the world, this is just an

excuse if you will for some groups to make use of that hatred and set it aflame.

<http://rt.com/news/islam-cartoon-media-law-522/>

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## Israel Files UN Complaint over Iran Hate Speech on Al-Quds Day: Ahmadinejad's Anti-Semitic Rant

Jordana Miller, Jerusalem, August 23, 2012 [JewishNewsOne](#)

Israel has filed a formal complaint at the United Nations Security Council, demanding the global body swiftly condemn the hate speech of Iran's leaders. Referring to a recent string of anti-Semitic statements and threats to destroy the Jewish State, Israel's petition says the UN's silence is no longer an option. Complacency by the international community is dangerous, the complaint stated. Israeli officials called Iran's leaders rational fanatics with irrational hatred and said one can only imagine what an extremist regime would do if it got its hands on the world's most dangerous weapon, a reference to a nuclear bomb.

It was a hate-filled speech by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on "Al-Quds Day" that enraged Israelis officials and sent them to protest at the UN... Established in 1979 by Iran's then Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khomeini, Al Quds day marks Iran's solidarity with the Palestinians and is celebrated every year on the last day of Ramadan. It has become an open forum for Iranians and their leaders to castigate and threaten the State of Israel. This year the antagonism was particularly strident given tensions over Iran's suspected nuclear weapons program. Western efforts to gain access to Iranian nuclear facilities and get answers on incriminating new evidence has led Israeli leaders to publicly debate the possibility of a pre-emptive strike on Iran.

In a televised speech, Achmadinejad said the very existence of the Zionist regime is a quote "affront to all world nations." He called on all human communities to quote "wipe out this scarlet letter from the forehead of humanity" -- another call for the destruction of Israel... Those belligerent remarks by Achmadinejad were specifically quoted in Israel's formal complaint to the UN...left out was Achmadinejad call for a new middle east where there would be no Israelis and no Americans... Israel also cited Achmadinejad's use of anti-Semitic conspiracy theories in his Al Quds speech. The Iranian President insisted that the two world wars were designed by the quote "Zionists"

But Israel's UN complaint also took to task the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei -- he called Israel a cancerous tumor in the heart of the Muslim world... Some Israelis seem unfazed... UN Chief Ban-Ki Moon condemned the Iranian remarks, calling them offensive and inflammatory. More reprimands followed from the EU Foreign Policy Chief and US officials in the Obama Administration. But some Israelis worry that's not enough... It's not surprising that Israel's UN complaint included a warning that complacency to Iran's hate speech is dangerous...

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z\\_mwvoR0uNI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_mwvoR0uNI)

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### FROM OUR ARCHIVE

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#### Anti-Semitism hits the Web – Transcript 11 October 2000

**MAXINE McKEW:** The World Wide Web has often been described as a free market for ideas and information, but according to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, cyberspace is no place for material claiming that say the Holocaust is a myth.

Yesterday the commission made an unprecedented order for the removal of a website -- created by a group calling itself the Adelaide Institute, because it breached the Racial Discrimination Act by posting material offensive to Jews.

The man behind the website, former school teacher Fredrick Toben, has previously been jailed in Germany for breaching their laws. Now, he's refusing to comply with the commission's finding -- a move likely to see the case tested in the Federal Court. Mike Sexton reports.

**JEREMY JONES, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY:**

They are saying that if you are a Holocaust survivor or if you have relatives who perished during the Nazi Holocaust, no matter how close, they say that you are lying about what happened to your loved one for some material gain.

So they are sticking the dagger in twice.

**DR FREDRICK TOBEN, ADELAIDE INSTITUTE:**

If we're in a democracy, then we must have the ability to have opposing points of view openly aired, even if it's hurtful and somewhat offensive.

**MIKE SEXTON:** Fredrick Toben, a retired high school English teacher and amateur historian, has created a small piece of history himself.



He's the first person in Australia to be ordered to remove an Internet website because it was based on racial hatred.

**ADELAIDE INSTITUTE VIDEO:** This second door, you can see it's supposed to be gas tight.

That is the problem.

**MIKE SEXTON:** Like controversial British historian David Irving, Fredrick Toben and the handful of members of his Adelaide Institute argued there was no systematic execution of Jews in the Second World War.

**DR FREDRICK TOBEN:** Hundreds of thousands died, Jewish and non-Jewish people, it's not in dispute because that's documented. What isn't documented is the terrible allegation that the Germans systematically exterminated European Jewry in homicidal gas chambers.

**JEREMY JONES:** More has been written about the Nazi Holocaust than any other period of world history. There is more academic debate taking place all around the world right now, there's a serious debate.

But someone who denies the Holocaust took place is not part of that debate, their somebody who is merely trying to use that as a pretext to launch anti-Semitic attacks.

**MIKE SEXTON:** Jeremy Jones is the Vice-President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry. He found Dr Toben's denial of the Holocaust so offensive, he brought a case to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

**JEREMY JONES:** Within the first few weeks of that site going up I received probably as many complaints about offence and hurt and injury caused by that website as I would about everything else going on in Australia over the same sort of period.

**MIKE SEXTON:** In a landmark decision, the commission described the website as bullying, insulting and offensive to the Jewish population and ordered the website be taken down and Dr Toben apologise to Mr Jones.

**JEREMY JONES:** We are vindicated because we believed that what he was doing was unlawful.

**DR FREDRICK TOBEN:** Truth is our defence in these proceedings, but Commissioner McEvoy didn't want to hear about the truthfulness of any of these allegations.

**MIKE SEXTON:** She has said though, the main purposes of the publication of the material was a humiliation and denigration of the Jewish people. That's an incredibly strong statement to make.

**DR FREDRICK TOBEN:** But these are sweeping generalisations.

**MIKE SEXTON:** Dr Toben believes the website is an academic discussion point, but the commission didn't agree.

**EXCERPT FROM HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DECISION:**

"None of the material contained on the website is of an historical, intellectual or scientific standard which is persuasive on these issues and is largely expressed in highly tendentious and often offensive and insulting language about Jewish people, which makes it difficult to give serious consideration to the propositions contained in it."

**JEREMY JONES:** If somebody says that they want to talk about the time when Gough Whitlam was PM and they want to discuss whether he was a good prime minister or a bad prime minister, you can discuss that.

If somebody says they want to discuss it because they want to argue he was never prime minister, you would say "What is the possible logic of arguing with someone like that?"

**MIKE SEXTON:** But if the Adelaide Institute website is considered a dead end on the information superhighway, then where does that leave other sites that contain potentially offensive or misleading information?

**IRENE GRAHAM, ELECTRONIC FRONTIERS AUSTRALIA:** It's really not for the Government to decide that this site is factual and this site's not.

People need to learn to analyse information, have critical reading skills and so on, and be able to make up their own mind.

**MIKE SEXTON:** Irene Graham is part of an Internet civil libertarians group called Electronic Frontiers Australia.

While the group deplores racist and hateful speech, it wrote to the commission defending Dr Toben's right to cyber freedom.

**IRENE GRAHAM:** Certainly, there seems to be the potential for it to be quite a nasty threat to freedom of speech because it is opening the door for many groups of people to claim to have been insulted or humiliated by something written on a website and yet the ruling doesn't clearly define where the line is to be drawn as to what extent offensive speech is illegal.

**JEREMY JONES:** We recognise that the Internet is an area where there are people who seem to think it can exist outside the rules which generally govern society.

We don't believe that for one moment.

**MIKE SEXTON:** Fredrick Toben believes it's an issue of freedom of speech and argued his opinions were sincerely held and offered in good faith. But this was rejected by the commission.

**EXCERPT FROM HUMAN RIGHTS & EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION DECISION:** "I would have very great difficulty in determining any of the material placed on the Adelaide Institute website by Dr Toben was put there 'reasonably and in good faith'."

**MIKE SEXTON:** The battle over the website isn't over, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission has no real teeth to enforce its decision.

**DR IAIN STEWART, MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY:** Toben is saying "OK, sue me," and that is just what will have to happen. But it's going to be an

expensive thing to do and there's no guarantee at all of the outcome.

**MIKE SEXTON:** Fredrick Toben has already spent seven months in a German prison for breaking that country's laws on Holocaust denial. He says he'll following the same path here rather than apologise or shut down his website.

**DR FREDRICK TOBEN:** For years, even during my teaching days, I informed students that the most precious thing we have is free speech. So I'm quite prepared to go to jail for that to show that I practice what I preach

**JEREMY JONES:** Fredrick Toben, if he goes to jail will go because he broke Australian law and I don't think most Australians think that is a particularly noble thing to do.

<http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/stories/s202870.htm>

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## The enemy within

*The Sydney Morning Herald, April 29 2002*

**Holocaust denial continues to enrage survivors and their families. But another interpretation of Hitler's final solution is causing almost as much grief - and it comes from members of the Jewish community. Kelly Burke reports.**

"It's like running a campaign to prove the Harbour Bridge doesn't exist," Jeremy Jones says of the "growth industry" of Holocaust denial. But the lightness in his voice fades quickly when the term "Holocaust revisionism" creeps into the conversation.

It is a term, says Jones, president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ), that legitimises a practice which is now officially classified as a crime in at least nine countries across Europe.

"Holocaust deniers have sought to promote themselves as one side of a debate on a matter of alleged historic dispute," says Jones.

"And what better way to rehabilitate anti-Semitism, making anti-Semitic arguments seem once again respectable in civilised discourse ... than by convincing the world that the great crime for which anti-Semitism was blamed simply never happened, that it was nothing more than a frame-up invented by the Jews."

At what point an individual's beliefs, regardless of how misguided or flawed they may be, overstep a hazy boundary and enter the domain of racial vilification will soon be tested, when the case of Fredrick Toben comes before the Federal Court.

The ECAJ is seeking a summary decision from the court to enforce an earlier Human Rights and Equal

Opportunity Commission ruling against Toben and his Adelaide Institute Web site, which has run a series of articles seeking to prove the Holocaust was grossly exaggerated, if it happened at all.

**Should the court uphold the HREOC ruling, Toben will become the first Australian ordered to wipe an Internet Web site on the grounds that the site's material incites racial hatred.**

Toben told the *Herald* last week he believed his rights to freedom of speech and engagement in legitimate academic and historical inquiry were being infringed.

"I'm not saying 'death to all Jews'. All I'm saying is there's just no evidence to suggest that gas chambers existed."

Support in principle for Toben's claim to freedom of speech has emerged from some unlikely corners.

The Internet civil libertarian group Electronic Frontiers Australia has made it clear it does not condone racist speech, but has defended Toben's right to cyber freedom.

The strident multicultural advocate, columnist/broadcaster Phillip Adams, who has previously criticised anti-vilification laws as "pious legislation ... pushed through as a control thing", believes the last thing anti-Semites like Toben need is their day in court. "But how can we honestly put people in jail for saying things?" he asks.

Jones insists the ECAJ is only seeking an apology and the removal of the offensive material.

"Jewish people have been, and continue to be, deeply offended and assaulted by his Web site." Within some sections of the Jewish community, however, pressure has been mounting for community leaders to turn their scrutiny upon another branch of Holocaust interpretation which continues to cause hurt and offence to those who survived the horror.

This interpretation fashions Hitler as a tool of God, and the Holocaust as the act of a just God, a God who sent Hitler, his messenger, to punish the sins of the Jewish people.

The only difference is this interpretation allegedly emanates from within the ranks of the Jewish community's own ultra-orthodox leadership.

In 1980, the renown Lubavitcher rabbi Menachem Schneerson, believed by his followers to be the Messiah, issued a controversial theological statement explaining why God allowed the Holocaust to happen.

An often vitriolic international debate has raged, between reform and orthodox, and secular and religious Judaism ever since.

Using the parable of God the surgeon, the Rebbe, as he is known by the ultra-orthodox Lubavitcher movement, stated that the Holocaust saved the people of Israel, because it amputated the poisoned limb of an increasingly secularist Jewish society.

This belief, that the Holocaust was essentially the Jewish people's own fault and God's punishment for their sins, continues to anger and distress many survivors and their descendants, says Ian Bersten, a former president of Australia's Secular Humanistic Jewish Community.

In 1996 he began lobbying bodies such as the Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants and the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies to take action against an affiliated body which he believes essentially casts Hitler as God's lieutenant.

"The Jewish community is in denial and will not face the gravity of the statement, the pain and hurt it has caused to so many," says Bersten.

"In this case, the Jewish community treasures unity more than truth."

A Sydney rabbi, Moshe Gutnick, says the Lubavitcher movement does not accept this interpretation of the Rebbe's 1980 statement, published, he argues, without imprimatur or personal editing from the Rebbe, despite the responsa irrefutably emanating from the Rebbe's own official Habad publishing house.

Moreover, Gutnick says the Rebbe's original statement, spoken in Yiddish, was inaccurately preserved. Evidence of this, he says, lies in the fact that the Rebbe's address was delivered on a Saturday, where the use of mechanical devices such as tape recorders and video cameras is strictly forbidden by the orthodox religion.

"Unfortunately Mr Bersten refuses to accept the reality that Rebbe Schneerson has repeated again and again that all Holocaust victims are the holiest of holy martyrs," says Gutnick. "He has never said these people are a cancer or poison deserving to be cut out."

The Rebbe clarified his position as recently as 1990, four years before his death, according to Gutnick.

Yet some Holocaust survivors are concerned that the "poisoned limb" theory still commonly attributed to the Rebbe continues to be passed down to subsequent generations, through the Jewish day school system.

In 1997, Sam Spitzer, a former anti-Nazi Jewish resistance fighter in Slovakia during World War II, wrote to the principal of Sydney's Moriah College, Roy Steinman, saying he believed children were still being taught the Holocaust was God's punishment on Jews. Evidence of this, Spitzer claimed, could be found in essays submitted by Moriah students to the annual Hans Kimmel Memorial Prize. Steinman wrote back to Spitzer, explaining it was the school's policy to expose students to a variety of Holocaust interpretations, ensuring no single interpretation held sway over another.

In a written statement responding to the *Herald's* inquiries, Steinman said that year 11 Moriah students continued to be exposed to a range of Jewish theological and rabbinical responses, both orthodox and liberal.

"In the end, no-one can claim to have the answers. The most we can achieve as educators is to help our students ask the right questions."

Sophie Caplan, founder and adjudicator of the Hans Kimmel Memorial Prize, says she has not received any essays expressing the alleged Rebbe position in about three years.

"I came down hard on these types of essays ... I said 'I find the notion you mention abhorrent' and now the word has got around, these essays have stopped."

Over the past five years, at least two other members of the Jewish community have challenged the Jewish education system over its teaching of the Rebbe's 1980 Holocaust explanation.

In June 1997, in an article published in *The Australian Jewish News*, a Melbourne journalist, David Bernstein, said he was convinced that children in Jewish day schools were still being exposed to "ethically repugnant speculation engaged in by the likes of the Lubavitcher Rebbe".

A Sydney doctor, John Nemesh, says he conducted a private inquiry into Jewish day schools over the matter.

"I'm a child of a Holocaust survivor," he says. "That's why I did what I did ... and I still believe



the ultra-orthodox position may be quietly taught in some of their schools, as it always was."

With the publication of a new book written by one of the Holocaust's most respected scholars, the debate has once more gathered momentum.

In *Rethinking the Holocaust* (Yale University Press, 2001), Yehuda Bauer, former director and now academic adviser at Jerusalem's International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem, claims that the Rebbe not only spawned the God-as-surgeon position in his 1980 responsa, but went on to reassert this position in a letter published in the Israeli newspaper *Al Hamishmar*. This was his response to a written attack by the Bialystok ghetto resistance fighter turned Israeli Knesset member, Chaika Grossman.

"If one follows the logic of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, then the inevitable conclusion is that Hitler was sent by God," Bauer writes.

What the Rebbe effectively concluded, Bauer says, was that "basically, the Holocaust was a good thing because God is good, and he must have ordained it".

Konrad Kwiet, adjunct professor of Jewish studies and Roth lecturer for Holocaust studies at the University of Sydney, does not dispute Bauer's position.

"It has been established that [the Rebbe] said it ... and survivors and the community don't like it."

But, as Kwiet points out, this practice of theodicy, of attempting to theologically explain the existence of pain and suffering within the context of an omnipotent and merciful God, is hardly the exclusive domain of ultra-orthodox Judaism.

While Gutnick acknowledges that some rabbinical teachers do subscribe to a Holocaust punishment theory, the rabbi insists neither he nor the Rebbe ascribes to those views.

"But can you say they have no place in Holocaust theology? Of course not. They should be discussed, and in my personal view, rejected."

With the publication of Bauer's latest findings, however, Lubavitcher critics such as Bersten and

Spitzer believe a public stance from organisations such as the Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants is now overdue.

**As Bauer observed in a letter to Bersten six years earlier: "If the [Rebbe's] statement had come from a non-Jew, we would all agree in calling him an anti-Semite."**

Last week the president of the Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants, George Foster, came close to taking that stand.

"We do not stand by the Rebbe's concept, that the Holocaust was punishment visited on the Jewish people," he said. "But nor does my association want to get involved in such a controversial discussion. The Holocaust should be remembered for what it was, the greatest catastrophe which ever occurred for the Jewish people, and perhaps even mankind."

**Under the Racial Hatred Act, Holocaust deniers such as Toben are open to prosecution on the grounds what they write and say may be designed to offend, hurt or humiliate. "Yet organisations such as the ECAJ stay silent over an affiliated body's own form of Holocaust revisionism," says Bersten.**

There is no legislation which has the power to punish people for what they believe and teach from a theological viewpoint. At least not yet.

Jones says no formal complaint against the Lubavitcher movement in relation to the Holocaust has come across his desk.

"And I don't expect it to ... but I accept that with this issue there are passionate views, and central to the issue are a lot of personal concerns."

What the Rebbe said - and what the Lubavitcher still may or may not espouse - might be seen as wrong and offensive by some, Jones concedes. "But it is not racism."

<http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2002/04/28/1019441328553.html>



**Remember the big lie that started the war against Iraq - Colin Powell lying through his teeth before the UN Security Council about WMD's? - on 5 February 2003, the day on which Ernst Zündel was arrested at his home in Tennessee.**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24AMP\\_bttD8&list=LPUz7kkYWRwTw&index=13](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24AMP_bttD8&list=LPUz7kkYWRwTw&index=13)

PHILLIP ADAMS

## Lost in Disneyland

319-201288  
THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN MAGAZINE



**W**ith mortality and retirement thinning the ranks – and having been at this writing lark for 60 years – I suspect I’ve published more words in more newspapers and mags than anyone else in Australian journalism. And as skirmishes with the Press Councillors, Media Watchers, Gerard Hendersons, *Quadrants* and bloggers attest (not to mention tonnes of hate mail now lodged in the bowels of the National Library), I’ve had my critics. And I mustn’t forget indignant writers of letters to editors. Bless ’em all.

As death threatens I’ve lost count of the death threats – some requiring police intervention and at least one the bomb squad. I’ve had dozens of thin-skinned adversaries threaten me via lawyers talking libel and defamation. (Surprisingly, one was Paddy McGuinness, who could, as they say, dish it out but not take it.) And I continue to make guest appearances in other people’s biographies, more than 30 at last count, as ageing polities, playwrights and pundits recall antique and abrasive encounters. All of this comes with the territory – it’s the argy and bargy of life in a pluralist media.

However, the recent knuckle-rapping by Julian Disney at the Press Council does concern me. The censure was provoked by my column, published in April last year, on Australia’s most odious anti-Semite, Eric

Butler. Oddly enough, it’s the second time the Council has had to adjudicate on Adams versus Butler – Eric dragged me before the umpire decades ago when I made the same accusations about his wartime treason. (Accusations? No. Stark, simple facts about Butler’s pro-Hitler rantings and rabid anti-Semitism from the 1930s until his overdue demise in 2006, aged 90.)

On that previous occasion the Press Council showed him the door. This time, with the complaint coming from lifelong supporter Nigel Jackson (who’d previously published glowing tributes to Butler in Fredrick

of whether any action should be taken against Butler was recently discussed with officers of Military Intelligence. The decision was reached that, in view of the fact that Butler is reputed to be a good soldier and has very recently been posted to a forward battle station, which should effectively hamper his political activities, no action need be taken.”

For full details of Butler’s time as a heroic Anzac, read *Voices of Hate* by the late Ken Gott, also a journalist for this paper. For Butler’s postwar shenanigans, where his loathsome League of Rights worked with some success to subvert the Country Party and the Libs, go online to read David Greason’s work for the *Australia-Israel Review*.

But for me the issue is the silliness of Disney allowing the complaint by Jackson to proceed. Jackson, author of *Lion for Freedom* (yes, he’s talking about Butler), is a revisionist historian whose nonsense would embarrass David Irving. If the Press Council is going to clog the works with complaints such as this it will have no time for serious work and no hope of being taken seriously. And I write these words as a supporter of its work from *before* its formation – when I undertook the task of persuading a sceptical, even hostile Kerry Packer to sign up.

A final point. My politics rarely accord with the editorial line of this paper. If *The Australian* can put up with me for decades, why can’t the Press Council?

### “ The recent knuckle-rapping by the Press Council does concern me ”

Töben’s Holocaust-denying journal), I got a formal tut-tut. How could I call Butler a traitor when he’d served in the Australian Army? The Press Council said I could call him a traitor “but this irrefutable and highly relevant fact [about his voluntary service record] should have been mentioned”. My colleague, Christian Kerr (in *The Weekend Australian*, August 25) did a better job of researching that claim than Disney – it was pretty clear the Army gave Butler the posting to get him out of the country, where he was subverting the war effort. ASIO at the time noted: “The question